Application No.: 10/550,553

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

(previously presented): A rubberized fiber material used in a belt reinforcing layer of
a pneumatic tire, characterized in that the rubberized fiber material comprises polyketone fibers
having substantially a repeat unit represented by the following formula (I):

$$-\left(\begin{array}{c} C - A \end{array}\right) - - - (I)$$

(wherein A is a moiety derived from an ethylenically unsaturated compound polymerized through ethylenic linkage, and may be same or different in repeat units) and a coating rubber covering the fibers, and the coating rubber has a modulus at 100% elongation (room temperature) of not less than 2.5 MPa but not more than 5.5 MPa and a rebound resilience at 23°C of not less than 60%,

wherein the coating rubber has a rubber component consisting of natural rubber.

2. (currently amended): A rubberized fiber material used in a carcass ply of a pneumatic tire, characterized in that the rubberized fiber material comprises polyketone fibers having substantially a repeat unit represented by the following formula (I):

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \hline & O \\ \hline & C \\ \hline & C \\ \hline \end{array} \qquad --- \qquad (1)$$

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(wherein A is a moiety derived from an ethylenically unsaturated compound polymerized through ethylenic linkage, and may be same or different in repeat units) and a coating rubber covering the fibers, and the coating rubber has a rubber component consisting of natural rubber and has a modulus at 100% elongation (room temperature) of not less than 2.5 MPa but not more than 5.5 MPa and a rebound resilience at 23°C of not less than 60%.

- 3. (canceled).
- (currently amended): A rubberized fiber material according to any one of claims 1 to
 wherein A in the formula (I) is an ethylene group.
- 5. (previously presented): A pneumatic tire comprising a belt reinforcing layer, characterized in that the belt reinforcing layer comprises polyketone fibers having substantially a repeat unit represented by the following formula (I):

$$-\left(\begin{array}{c} C - A \end{array}\right) - - - (I)$$

(wherein A is a moiety derived from an ethylenically unsaturated compound polymerized through ethylenic linkage, and may be same or different in repeat units) and a coating rubber covering the fibers, and the coating rubber has a modulus at 100% elongation (room temperature) of not less than 2.5 MPa but not more than 5.5 MPa and rebound resilience at 23°C of not less than 60%,

wherein the coating rubber has a rubber component consisting of natural rubber.

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6. (currently amended): A pneumatic tire comprising a carcass ply, characterized in that the carcass ply comprises polyketone fibers having substantially a repeat unit represented by the following formula (I):

$$-\left(\begin{array}{c} C - A - \end{array}\right) - - - (I)$$

(wherein A is a moiety derived from an ethylenically unsaturated compound polymerized through ethylenic linkage, and may be same or different in repeat units) and a coating rubber covering the fibers, and the coating rubber has a modulus at 100% elongation (room temperature) of not less than 2.5 MPa but not more than 5.5 MPa and a rebound resilience at 23°C of not less than 60%.

wherein the coating rubber has a rubber component consisting of natural rubber.

- 7. (original): A pneumatic tire according to claim 5 or 6, wherein the pneumatic tire is a tire for a passenger car.
 - 8. (canceled).